



Tottington Holiday Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	316823
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Inspector	Maria Keane
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Registered person	Tottington Holiday Playscheme
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Tottington Holiday Playscheme has been running for thirty years.

The scheme is run by a committee of volunteers, the chair of which has had overall supervisory responsibilities since the schemes outset. The scheme operates from four classrooms, the gym and sports hall in Tottington High School, Bury. There is a playing field and playground for outdoor play. Separate areas are used for children under and over eight years.

The scheme operates between 09.30 and 16.00 for three weeks of the summer

holidays, and can accommodate up to two hundred children aged between four and eleven years each day. Most of the children who attend live in the local area. The scheme supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

At the present time there is a total of 17 staff working with the children. At least half of the staff have relevant qualifications and child-care experience. In addition, there are many young people who work at the scheme as volunteers.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a range of activities that promotes their good health, for example, they take part in physical play on a daily basis. Children enjoy organised games, such as bench ball and football. During outdoor play children enjoy skipping, using hula hoops and playing with bats and balls.

Children's health needs are well met through the staff's ability to record and maintain documentation, such as the safe administration of medication and the recording of accidents sustained. In addition, there are several staff qualified to administer first aid in the event of an emergency.

Children are cared for in a clean environment and staff take responsibility for maintaining good hygiene practices whilst the scheme is in operation. Children take responsibility for their personal needs and are, in the main encouraged by staff to wash their hands prior to eating lunch. They bring their own pack lunch and benefit from lunch times being a relaxed, social occasion where they sit together in small groups. The children indicated that they particularly enjoy using the 'tuck shop' facility, where they can purchase snacks of their choice, however, there are very few healthy options for children to choose from. Drinks are available throughout the day and water is made available for children to access on hot days and following physical activity.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are kept very safe and secure because staff are very clear of their responsibility. Children are well supervised through the effective deployment of staff and clear boundaries. Children learn about keeping themselves safe through the staff's vigilance, discussions and following simple rules, such as asking staff if they can use the toilet and wearing brightly coloured badges when on outings. The premises and outdoor areas are checked daily by staff to ensure all debris is removed and safety precautions are in place. There are clear fire evacuation procedures which are displayed in each play room as a reminder.

Children are cared for in well organised playrooms. They choose the room they would like to go in for the morning and then again in the afternoon. They benefit from

having access to the outdoor play area via the playrooms. There are a good range of resources available, especially art and craft materials which children freely access. Boxes of toys are kept in the playrooms for children to access and for staff to rotate activities.

Children are protected because staff have a sound understanding of the procedures for safeguarding children. The supervisor has completed child protection training and some staff have attended a safeguarding children seminar. The staff are briefed at the beginning of the scheme of their responsibility and written procedures are available.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very happy and are well settled. They develop good friendships and get to know other children from different schools in the area. Children are confident and happily share their experiences with staff and visitors. They benefit from being cared for by kind and supportive staff who provide a good range of interesting activities, such as arts and crafts relating to familiar nursery rhymes. Children proudly show off their art work and create using a variety of materials. They show particular interest in making practical objects during handicraft sessions, for example, making a case to store their CD's which they take home with them at the end of the session. Children have a lot of fun when doing dance and singing shows. A group of children invited staff and children to watch them perform a dance, the audience clapped and cheered as children performed some intrinsic movements, such as the splits. Other children particularly enjoyed constructing using Lego and wooden train tracks. Staff supported children well during organised board games. Children indicated that they particularly enjoy playing with their friends, making things and visiting the 'tuck shop'.

Children have some good opportunities to visit places of interest, such as Camelot and the cinema. The scheme remains in operation for the children who do not wish to go on trips out. Children get together for a fun disco to mark the end of the scheme.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are warmly welcomed into the scheme. Children with learning difficulties or disabilities are well supported and are included in the daily activities. All children's individual needs are met and clear written records of children's individual requirements are kept and shared with the relevant staff members. There are some toys and resources that promote diversity. Children show respect for each other, staff members and their environment, for example, they help tidy up after play. Their confidence and self-esteem is well developed because staff encourage them to use their own ideas to create and make choices. In addition, staff praise and encourage children's behaviour and work. Children are well behaved mainly because they are fully involved in interesting activities. Parents receive some good written information informing them of the schemes ethos, activities, policies and procedures, however,

the manager has not yet set up a complaints record. The parents are required to complete forms regarding their child's needs to ensure children receive consistent care and relevant support as required.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The scheme benefits from very good leadership. The manager is very organised, which impacts positively on the staff team, for example, staff are very clear on their roles and responsibilities. The staff work well as a team and are deployed effectively in order to maximise on the staff's skills and interest. The staff are keen to develop their knowledge of child's play and many are nursery nurses or training to become teachers. The scheme is well organised to ensure children's welfare and safety.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

The previous care inspection recommended that the playscheme consider extending the opportunities for children to move around the different play areas to increase their choices of play activities. Include in the child protection procedures a statement of procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation against a member of staff and to include the contact telephone number of the regulator in the complaints procedure.

These areas have been addressed, children choose which play room they would like to go into in the morning and again in the afternoon. If they are not happy with their choice during these sessions then they can ask to move into another room. The child protection statement now includes procedures to be followed if an allegation is made against a member of staff. The contact number of the regulator is included in the complaints procedure and a poster is displayed at the entrance of the building as a reminder.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the

National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- introduce more fruit and/or healthy foods for children to choose from when visiting the tuck shop
- keep and maintain a record of complaints.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk